IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 15-16 and amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended) A wireless remote terminal apparatus comprising:

a label reader capable of reading information from a label on a product;

a communication unit capable of communicating information to one or more service nodes; and

a controller, coupled to the label reader, the communication unit, arranged to (1) receive information from the label reader, (2) allow a user to adjust the received information from the label reader, (3) send a request, using the received information or the adjusted information, to one or more of the service nodes through the communication unit, (3) receive an information response from the service node, and (4) display the information response, and (5) enable a user to evaluate the product with the information response from the service node, ;

wherein the request and the response are formatted as documents capable of being exchanged in a distributed, decentralized environment; and

wherein said controller permits the user to request pricing information from a plurality of vendors and stores that offer a particular product for sale identified by the information read from the label, said pricing information from a variety of vendors being retrieved by said service nodes.

2. (Previously Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the information response includes competitive pricing information for equivalent products of a product associated with the label.

3. (Previously Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein response to the received information response, the controller is further arranged to allow profile information to be accessed by a service node to engage into a commercial transaction.

4. (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the apparatus and the service mode communicate in a client/server network.

5. (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein the documents comprise XML documents.

6. (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein the XML documents are expressed as SOAP messages.

7. (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a context sensor coupled to the controller.

8. (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the one or more service nodes are response to a profile associated with a user contained within the request from the apparatus.

9. (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the controller further is operable to allow a user to complete an on-line commercial transaction in response to the received information.

10. (Previously Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the controller further is operable to allow a user to re-send a request to one or more of the service nodes, in response to the information response.

11. Cancelled.

12. (Currently Amended) A wireless remote terminal apparatus comprising:

a memory; and

a processor coupled to the memory and operative to read RFID information from a tag, allow a user to adjust the RFID information, communicate the read information or adjusted information to an service node, ~~receive a response from the service node~~, and responsive to t~~he~~a ~~received~~ response from the service node, to allow profile information including competitive pricing information from a plurality of vendors offering a product for sale that is identified by or similar to said RFID information to be accessed by a service node to engage into a commercial transaction and enable a user to evaluate a product associated with said RFID information with the profile information from the service node~~, and where the request and the response are formatted as documents capable of being exchanged in a distributed, decentralized environment~~.

13. Cancelled.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for allowing a remote user to receive assistance in determining whether to complete an on-site or an on-line commercial transaction, the method comprising the steps of:

reading RFID information from a label of a product, the product located at a retailer location, using a remote terminal;

adjusting the RFID information using the remote terminal;

communicating the adjusted information to one or more service nodes using the remote terminal;

performing an information search relating to the product that includes competitive pricing information from a plurality of vendors offering the product for sale, at the service node using the adjusted information; and

transmitting an information response to the wireless remote terminal;

determining whether to complete an on-site or an on-line commercial transaction at the retailer location using the information response.

15. Canceled.

16. Canceled.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein the one or more service nodes are responsive to a profile associated with a user contained within the information from the remote terminal.

18. Cancelled.

19 (Previously Added). The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the label comprises an RFID (radio frequency identification) label and the reader is capable of reading RFID.